



Proposed Code Change  
State Form 41186R

RETURN TO:  
INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
CODE SERVICES SECTION  
302 W. Washington Street Room W246  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Received 9/8/09

Code 49.1-09R

INSTRUCTIONS:

Only TYPED copy accepted.

(KEY – Dashed line through material to be deleted, underline material to be added)

Use second sheet for any material requiring more space.

|   |   |                          |
|---|---|--------------------------|
| Code Title<br>2009 Indiana Residential Code             |   | Edition<br>First Edition |
| Section number and title<br>R408.3 Unvented crawlspace. |   | Page<br>1 of 2           |
| Proponent<br>Craig Wagner                               | Title<br>Chief Building Inspector/ IABO Code Comm. Member |                          |
| Address<br>220 W Van Buren St, Columbia City IN 46725   |   | Phone<br>260-248-3111    |
| PROPOSED CODE CHANGE (Check One)                        |   |                          |

☐ Change to read as follows    ☐ Add to read as follows    ☒ Delete and substitute as follows    ☐ Delete without substitution

Delete R408.3 and substitute as follows:

**R408.3 Unvented crawl space.** Under-floor spaces of structures not located in flood hazard areas shall not be required to have ventilation openings installed in under-floor spaces as specified in Sections R408.1 and R408.2 where:

1. Exposed earth is covered with a continuous 0.006 inch (.152 mm) thick, Class I, vapor retarder. Joints of the vapor retarder shall overlap by 6 inches (152mm); and

2. The underfloor space is completed in accordance with one of the following:

2.1. The walls are insulated in accordance with R316 and Chapter 11 of this code. A hard surface pad with dimensions of at least 16 inches (407mm) by 16 inches (407mm) and an electrical receptacle shall be provided for the installation of a dehumidifier in the event of high humidity conditions in the under-floor space. Mechanical system ductwork is not required to be insulated and ductwork shall not have openings into the under-floor space. Plumbing systems are not required to be insulated. Openings into conditioned spaces are allowed when provided with a closable door or panel.

2.2. The walls are insulated with materials that are in accordance with R316 and Chapter 11 of this code, and are compatible with the interior atmosphere of the dwelling. A 2 inch concrete floor is installed over the vapor retarder and conditioned air is circulated through the space at a rate of at least 1 cfm (0.47 L/s) for each 50 square feet (4.7 m<sup>2</sup>) of under-floor

space.

2.3. Underfloor plenums in existing structures are maintained in accordance with section M1605.1

REASON AND FISCAL IMPACT

This proposal brings forward the crawlspace changes that the committee added to the 2005 InRC. Rather than allowing for the possibility of mistakes and misinterpretation the entire section has been rewritten. Section M1605.1 has been included only as a reference to existing underfloor plenum systems. Note also that the use of unvented crawlspaces is limited to buildings that are not in flood hazard areas unless the floor of the space is 2' above the 100 year flood level.

**Fiscal impact:** no increase to the cost of construction.

REVIEW RECOMMENDATION

Approve

Disapprove

Approve as amended

Further Study